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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/008,638	12/04/2001	Thomas O'Neill	P-5851	7391
24209	7590	02/27/2006	EXAMINER	
			MAI, LAM T	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2819	

DATE MAILED: 02/27/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/008,638	O'NEILL, THOMAS 
	Examiner LAM T. MAI	Art Unit 2819

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 November 2005.  
 2a) This action is FINAL.                    2b) This action is non-final.  
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 2-5,7-11 and 13-15 is/are pending in the application.  
 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
 5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.  
 6) Claim(s) 2-5,7-11 and 13-15 is/are rejected.  
 7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.  
 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  
 10) The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
 a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:  
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____.

**DETAILED ACTION**

**Response to Amendments**

Applicant's amendment filed on 11/18/2005 has been considered but are moot in view of the new grounds rejection.

***Specification***

The lengthy specification has not been checked to the extent necessary to determine the presence of all possible minor errors. Applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any errors of which applicant may become aware in the specification.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 2-5, 7-11, and 13-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Cocke et al (USP 3,701,111).

Regarding claim 2 Cocke discloses technique decoding and encoding digits into bits using a sign bit show a negative or positive number. Figures 4 and 10 clearly show the idea, one can set the bit as desired to correspond to negative or positive signs (see col. 2, lines 63-67). Cocke teach a method that providing a unique variable bit length binary representation of the absolute value of said integer data; appending to said

unique variable bit length binary representation a single bit representing the sign of said integer data, and the single bit is zero for integer data that is less than or equal to zero.

Regarding claim 3 Cocke discloses technique decoding and encoding digits into bits using a sign bit show a negative or positive number. Figures 4 and 10 clearly show the idea, one can set the bit as desired to correspond to negative or positive signs (see col. 2, lines 63-67). Cocke teach a method that providing a unique variable bit length binary representation of the absolute value of said integer data; appending to said unique variable bit length binary representation a single bit representing the sign of said integer data, and the single bit is one for integer data that is less than or equal to zero.

Regarding claim 4 Cocke discloses technique decoding and encoding digits into bits using a sign bit show a negative or positive number. Figures 4 and 10 clearly show the idea, one can set the bit as desired to correspond to negative or positive signs (see col. 2, lines 63-67). Cocke teach a method that providing a unique variable bit length binary representation of the absolute value of said integer data; appending to said unique variable bit length binary representation a single bit representing the sign of said integer data, and the single bit is zero for integer data that is greater than or equal to zero.

Regarding claim 5 Cocke discloses technique decoding and encoding digits into bits using a sign bit show a negative or positive number. Figures 4 and 10 clearly show the idea, one can set the bit as desired to correspond to negative or positive signs (see col. 2, lines 63-67). Cocke teach a method that providing a unique variable bit length binary representation of the absolute value of said integer data; appending to said

unique variable bit length binary representation a single bit representing the sign of said integer data, and the single bit is one for integer data that is greater than or equal to zero.

Regarding claim 7 Cocke discloses technique decoding and encoding digits into bits using a sign bit show a negative or positive number. Figures 4 and 10 clearly show the idea, one can set the bit as desired to correspond to negative or positive signs (see col. 2, lines 63-67). Cocke teach a method that providing a unique variable bit length binary representation of the absolute value of said integer data; appending to said unique variable bit length binary representation a single bit representing the sign of said integer data, and the unique binary representation having a leading portion and a value portion and the leading portion encodes the length of the value portion.

Regarding claim 8 Cocke discloses technique decoding and encoding digits into bits using a sign bit show a negative or positive number. Figures 4 and 10 clearly show the idea, one can set the bit as desired to correspond to negative or positive signs (see col. 2, lines 63-67). Cocke teach a method that providing a unique variable bit length binary representation of the absolute value of said integer data; appending to said unique variable bit length binary representation a single bit representing the sign of said integer data, and the unique binary representation having a leading portion having a number of identical bits equal to the number of bits in the value portion.

Regarding claim 10 Cocke discloses technique decoding and encoding digits into bits using a sign bit show a negative or positive number. Figures 4 and 10 clearly show the idea, one can set the bit as desired to correspond to negative or positive signs (see

col. 2, lines 63-67). Cocke teach a method that providing a unique variable bit length binary representation of the absolute value of said integer data; appending to said unique variable bit length binary representation a single bit representing the sign of said integer data, and the unique binary representation having a leading portion and a value portion having the significant bits of the absolute value of the integer data written in a binary base system.

Regarding claim 11 Cocke discloses technique decoding and encoding digits into bits using a sign bit show a negative or positive number. Figures 4 and 10 clearly show the idea, one can set the bit as desired to correspond to negative or positive signs (see col. 2, lines 63-67). Cocke teach a method that providing a unique variable bit length binary representation of the absolute value of said integer data; appending to said unique variable bit length binary representation a single bit representing the sign of said integer data, and the unique binary representation having a leading portion and a value portion and the leading portion precedes the value portion.

Regarding claim 13 Cocke discloses technique decoding and encoding digits into bits using a sign bit show a negative or positive number. Figures 4 and 10 clearly show the idea, one can set the bit as desired to correspond to negative or positive signs (see col. 2, lines 63-67). Cocke teach a method that providing a unique variable bit length binary representation of the absolute value of said integer data; appending to said unique variable bit length binary representation a single bit representing the sign of said integer data, and the integer data having data from a data set having a most probable value and the occurrence of the most probable value is specified separately.

Regarding claim 14 Cocke discloses technique decoding and encoding digits into bits using a sign bit show a negative or positive number. Figures 4 and 10 clearly show the idea, one can set the bit as desired to correspond to negative or positive signs (see col. 2, lines 63-67). Cocke teach a method that providing a unique variable bit length binary representation of the absolute value of said integer data; appending to said unique variable bit length binary representation a single bit representing the sign of said integer data, and the integer data having data from a data set having most probable value and the data set having image data.

Regarding claim 15 Cocke discloses technique decoding and encoding digits into bits using a sign bit show a negative or positive number. Figures 4 and 10 clearly show the idea, one can set the bit as desired to correspond to negative or positive signs (see col. 2, lines 63-67). Cocke teach a method that providing a unique variable bit length binary representation of the absolute value of said integer data; appending to said unique variable bit length binary representation a single bit representing the sign of said integer data, and the integer data is denoted by "N" and has an absolute value binary representation "A" having "L" significant bits and the unique variable bit length binary representation comprises L zero followed by A.

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to LAM T. MAI whose telephone number is (571)272-1807. The examiner can normally be reached on 5:30 am - 4:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Barnie Rexford can be reached on (571) 272-7492. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
Lam-T. Mai  
Art Unit 2819